

House Republican Press Release

July 29, 2005
Press Office: 860-240-8700

Greenwich House Delegation: Bond Commission Okays Funding For Greenwich Projects



The State Bond Commission today authorized funding for several Greenwich highway, bridge and commuter rail projects, state Representatives Livvy R. Floren, R-149th District, Lile R. Gibbons, R-150th District, and Claudia “Dolly” Powers, R- 151st District, announced today.

The Bond Commission approved the funding (along with money for several other projects around the state) as part of an omnibus bonding package for the state Department of Transportation at its monthly meeting today.

“A state of the art weigh-in-motion device to be installed on I-95 in the vicinity of Greenwich will enable the Department of Motor Vehicles to be more selective about the trucks it checks, which will mean less disruption to traffic on this very congested highway,” said Representative Gibbons, who serves on the General Assembly’s Transportation Committee. “When the equipment becomes fully operational, DMV will be able to concentrate its inspection efforts on trucks with poor track records and improve highway safety on I-95.”

“One of the most important projects this bond package will pay for is the installation of a backup generator at the power station near the Cos Cob Railroad Station,” Representative Floren said. “When the project is completed in August of 2006, it will provide vital backup power that can be tapped if we have another blackout like the one that occurred in August 2003. If a power failure should occur, the generator will ensure service on Metro-North is maintained for the thousands of commuters who take the train to work.”

“The generator project is very important to us,” said Representative Powers, a deputy house minority leader. “It is part of an effort recommended by the Department of Public Utility Control to provide backup support in our area because of power transmission problems. We’ve been waiting for this project for some time and I’m very pleased that it will be getting underway in August. Based on the weather we’ve been having this week, it can’t get started too soon.”

The projects include:

- Installation of a weigh-in-motion device on I-95 near Greenwich to detect and process information from an approaching truck and determine whether the truck needs to go to the I-95 northbound weigh station or if it will be exempted, enabling trucks with histories of compliance to bypass the weigh station and allowing the Department of Motor Vehicles to better identify vehicles that need to be checked. Construction is projected to begin during the summer of 2006. The estimated completion date for the project is the summer of 2007. The \$832,000 project includes federal funding totaling \$748,800 and state funding amounting to \$83,200.
- Installation of a back-up generator at the Cos Cob Power Station (located several hundred feet east of the Cos Cob Railroad Station) to maintain signal power in the event of a blackout. Work on the project is scheduled to begin in August 2005 and be completed by August 2006. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$978,000, all of which will be funded by the state.
- Realignment of a short (0.2 miles) curved section of King Street in Greenwich. The \$1,036,000 project is expected to get underway in May of 2006 and be completed by May of 2007. Federal grant: \$828,800; state funding: \$207,200.
- Deck rehabilitation, Comly Avenue Bridge over the Byram River in Greenwich. The \$750,000 project is expected to get underway in April 2006 and be completed in April 2007. Federal grant: \$600,000; state funding: \$150,000.